

VILLAGE OF BUTLER NEWSLETTER

THE CABOOSE

FROM THE PRESIDENT

WINTER 2010
VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3

VILLAGE INFORMATION

Emergency.....	911
Village Hall	(262) 783-2525
Assessor	(262) 783-2525
Building Inspection	(262) 544-8280
Code Enforcement.....	(262) 783-2525
Village Clerk	(262) 783-2525
Economic Development	(262) 783-2525
Court	(262) 781-9790
Engineer Tim Barbeau.....	(262) 786-1777
Finance/Treasurer	(262) 783-2525
Fire Non-Emergency	(262) 783-2537
Library.....	(262) 783-2535
(Trash Contractor) Waste Management....	(414) 761-2100
Police Non-Emergency	(262) 446-5070
Police Administration	(262) 781-2431
Business Fax	(262) 783-2522
Public Works Inspection	(262) 783-2525
Water Utility	(262) 783-2525

The year 2009 was a mix of challenges and rewards for your Village Board. We started the year with an extraordinary amount of snow resulting in a large amount of snow removal costs. Consequently we were over budget in a few accounts early in the year and had to cut expenses in other areas for the balance for the year.

Our first full year in our new library has been very successful with a significant increase in circulation and visitors. We also added a K-9 unit to our Police Department when we acquired our dog, Oden. Both the library and the K-9 unit were made possible, without the use of taxpayer dollars, thanks to the generosity of many residents and businesses in our community.

In 2009 the Village Board decided to undertake two major capital projects for next year. The first is the repaving of Hampton Avenue. We applied for and were awarded Federal stimulus money for the project. Consequently very little local taxpayer dollars will be used. The second project is the internal and external remodeling of the Village Hall building. Both projects are an investment in our downtown area and hopefully will become a springboard to further redevelopment.

This past year we were gifted the former Butler Lions Club property consisting of approximately an acre of land, the Lions Hall and a garage. The property, which is adjacent to Frontier Park, was valued at \$265,000 and gives us some added space.

Despite the early budget issues we are on track to end the year close to budget thanks to the efforts of the Village staff. It certainly was an eventful year.

Richard A. Ensslin
Village President

HOLIDAY HOURS—VILLAGE HALL

The Village of Butler will be open on:

Thursday, 12/24/09 until 12 Noon. Closed on 12/25/09

Village of Butler will be open on New Year's Eve day from 8 AM—12 Noon and 1 PM until 5 PM.

The Village of Butler will be closed on New Year's Day—01/01/2010.



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VILLAGE OF BUTLER ELECTED OFFICIALS**Village President**

Richard Ensslin

Village Board of Trustees

Village Trustee	William Benjamin	Village Trustee	Dan Zeck
Village Trustee	Michael Thew	Village Trustee	Robert Ward
Village Trustee	Walter Woloszyk	Village Trustee	Teri Stegemeyer

WATER METERS

Water Meters that are located in the home should be kept in a heated area to keep them from freezing. Also, Water Meters outside should also be kept from freezing to avoid problems.

VILLAGE OF BUTLER**KEEP FIRE HYDRANTS CLEAR!**

It's a good idea to "adopt" the fire hydrant on or near your property by digging away the snow. By keeping the hydrants clear, it only helps the Fire Department if they must respond to your home or business in a fire emergency. They don't need to waste precious time in digging out the hydrant.

REMINDER:

Purchase your Parking Permits for the next quarter - \$22.50 for Street Overnight Parking & \$30.00 for Municipal "South" Lot.

VILLAGE OF BUTLER**Park & Recreation**

LEAGUES ARE NOW FORMING—
2010 Adult Men and Women Softball Teams.
Applications may be picked up at the Village Hall. Availability of open spots is on a first come first serve basis; with last year's teams having priority. There are two spots currently open on Thursday Night (Women's) and Friday Night Mens. Call 262-783-2525 for details.

**DOG LICENSES**

State law requires all dogs over the age of 5 months to be licensed. To obtain a license, the dog owner must have proof of rabies immunization, including serum manufacturer, serum serial number and date vaccination was given and will expire. Licenses are now available for 2010 at the Village Office or the Elm Brook Humane Society. The cost is \$7.00 for a spayed or neutered dog and \$12.00 if NOT spayed or neutered.

If dog licenses are not purchased by March 31, 2010, a \$5.00 late penalty will be due in addition to the \$7.00 or \$12.00 fee. All dog licenses will expire on 12/31/2009.

We're MOVING! (Sort Of)

Starting later this month, Village Hall, including the Police Department, will be undergoing major renovation. This is expected to last well into 2010. Because of this, there will be some changes in how things are done administratively, and with the Municipal Court.

As always, our squads will be available 24 hours a day. If you need a squad in an emergency, just dial 9-1-1, for all other needs, call 446-5070.

Our Administrative Assistant will still be working out of Village Hall, but she will be working on the Clerk/Treasurer side of the building. Our Officers will be working out of the old Lion's Club Building at Frontier Park.

Municipal Court, as well as Village Board Meetings will be held at the Community Building located at 5251 North 127 Street.

Administrative questions can still be directed to 781-2431 and Court questions can still be directed to 781-9790.

Police Chief Michael Cosgrove

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

Removal from Sidewalks – Within twenty-four (24) hours after the fall of sleet or snow, it shall be the duty of the owners and/or the occupants of any lot or parcel of land in the Village of Butler to remove, or cause to be removed, the snow or sleet from any and all sidewalks and to keep the same free and clear of snow and ice for the full width of the sidewalk.

Also, it is prohibited by Village Ordinance **for anyone to plow or shovel snow onto or across a public right-of-way**. Furthermore, no person, firm or corporation engaged in snow removal operations deposit snow or cause snow to be deposited across the street from the property from which said snow is being taken.

No person, firm or corporation shall place snow, allow snow to be placed or cause snow to be placed to a height greater than thirty inches (30") above a place through the mean curb or street grade within the triangular space formed by any two (2) existing or proposed intersecting street or alley right-of-way lines and a line joining points on such lines, located a minimum of ten feet (10') from their intersection.

Penalty – If any person, firm or corporation who violates the provisions of the above regarding Snow and Ice Removal shall be subject to a penalty as provided in Section 1-1-6 of the Code of Ordinances for the Village of Butler.

First Offense - \$25.00 - \$500.00

Second Offense - \$50.00 - \$1,000

**SNOW****EMERGENCY**

In the event of a snow emergency, stay tuned to local television or radio stations for closings. During a snow emergency, there is **NO** street parking in the Village. Off-street parking is available in the parking lot by the Lion's Clubhouse and the South metered parking lot. Confirm with the Village Hall or Police Department.



LIBRARY NEWS

Butler Library has had a very successful and busy year. Some of the highlights for the first year:

Increased Attendance	2008 - 7,200 people 2009 - 15,320 people
Increased Circulation-	<u>Butler Community (Residents)</u> 2008 - 8,019 2009 - 11,112
Increased 39%	<u>Menomonee Falls (Residents)</u> 2008 - 1,169 2009 - 3,714
Increased 218%	<u>Brookfield (Residents)</u> 2008 - 1,662 2009 - 3,524



Adult Programming Events: Mystery Night, Railroad Programs, Mystery Author-Deb Baker Presentation, Women's and Men's Book Club, Plant Exchange, Rosemaling, Summer Adult Reading Program, Tax and Investment Program, Computer Instruction

Children Programs: Summer Reading Programs, Bedtime Story Hours, Afternoon Story Hours, Elementary and Middle School Reading Clubs, Play Groups, Dr. Seuss Reading Day

Computers : A total of 2 card catalog computers, 4 childrens, 8 patron computers available to the public, usage averages 30 patrons per day. Individual computer instruction is available 3 days per week.

Check out our Web page at www.butler.lib.wi.us. We are updating the web site monthly. We have added a monthly calendar on the web page so you can see the activities that are happening each month.

Our library is open MONDAY through FRIDAY at noon, and closed at 8:00 PM. On Fridays, we close at 6:00 PM. We are open 10:00 PM -1:00 PM on Saturdays.

PROGRAMS FOR 2010

LADIES AND MENS Adult Book Clubs - They will continue to meet each month. We would like to put another book club together if there is enough interest. Please let one of the staff know if you would like to join a reading club.

Individual Computer Training will continue on Monday and Tuesdays from 2:30- 3:30 PM.

A new computer class will be offered for beginners. The class will cover basic skills like using the mouse, keyboard and the internet.

Another new computer class will cover using the computer catalog to find material from the library.

The Wisconsin Chapter of National Railway Historical Society will present two more programs. The first program will be on January 27, 2010. Jerry Hilton will speak. The second program will be on March 31, 2010. Tom Hoffmann will be the speaker.

The Alzheimer's Association of Southeastern Wisconsin will present a program called "Nourish Your Noggin" on March 25, 2010 from 6:15- 7:30 PM.

LIBRARY NEWS cont'd.

Social security program! Watch for details!

Gardening presentation in March. Watch for details!

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Butler Skateland is sponsoring a SKATE NIGHT for Butler Library on February 15, 2010. The time will be 6:30-8:30 PM. The charge will be \$5.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased the night of the party.

BEDTIME STORIES - Mondays 7:00 PM

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME - Wednesdays 1:30 PM

Children's Play Group- January 12th - Legos, February 9th - **Coloring**, March 9th, **Puzzles**
Bring your children to play with other children! Open - 12:00- 4:00 PM.

4th/5th Grade Reading Club Third Thursday of the Month @ 6:30 PM

Young Adult Reading Group Last Saturday of the Month 11:00-12:00 Noon

Our community meeting room is available for non-profit organizations!

Thank you for your help in making our first year in the new library building such a success. Please call me with any suggestions for new programs or additional services that you are looking for. I am looking for a couple of volunteers to assist patrons individually on the computer. If you would like to help, please let me know! Come often to your Butler Library!

Gail Duernberger, Director

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

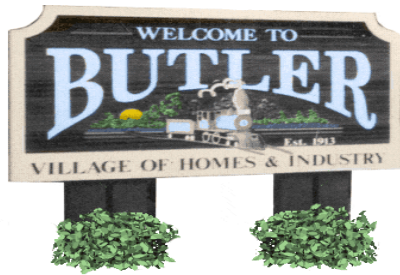
There are three (3) Trustee positions. Candidates may begin circulating nomination papers on or after December 1, 2009. Deadline to file candidacy papers with the Clerk is Tuesday, January 5, 2010. To request a candidate packet, call the Village Clerk's office at 783-2525 or stop by to pick one up.

ELECTIONS—MOVING POLLING PLACE

The Village of Butler Polling Place will be moving from the Village Hall for the Spring Primary Election, February 16, 2010 and the Spring Election, April 6, 2010 due to the remodeling of Village Hall. The Electors of the Village of Butler will be voting temporarily at the Community Building, 5251 North 127 Street, Butler, WI. If you have any questions, please contact Village Hall.

2010 ELECTIONS

February 16, 2010	Spring Primary	7 AM – 8 PM
April 6, 2010	Spring Election	7 AM – 8 PM
September 14, 2010	Fall Primary	7 AM—8 PM
November 2, 2010	General Election	7 AM—8 PM



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12621 West Hampton Ave
Butler, WI 53007

Phone: 262-783-2525
Fax: 262-783-2522
E-mail: Butler@wi.rr.com

RECYCLING UPDATE

DNR Recycling Web Site Enhanced

Looking for information on Wisconsin's recycling program? Trying to find a market for your recyclables?

Need some education resources or technical assistance? It's all on the Web, on DNR's recycling web site at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/aw/wm/recycle/>

Just about everything you need to know about recycling in Wisconsin can be found under some of the following headings:

- Recycling Quick Reference
- Recycling Law
- Recycling Contacts
- Local County Contacts
- Annual Recycling and Landfill Reports Recycling Studies
- Material Banned from Disposal in Wisconsin
- Facts & Figures
- Who can tell me how and what to recycle?

The "Recycling Quick Reference" is the newest addition to our site. In talking with people throughout the state, we learned that people are interested in having easy access to recycling basics. This site offers answers to the "what", "when" and "how" questions, such as:

Waukesha County Senior Services

Please contact Waukesha County Department of Senior Services at (262) 548-7828 for information on the services provided in Waukesha County. Also, the Village Hall has the following brochures and literature (as well as other materials) available in the office:

Senior Connection
Share Program
Volunteer Services
Senior Dining
Caring for the Caregiver
A Good Day Begins
A Directory of Useful Information
Developing your Caregiving Team

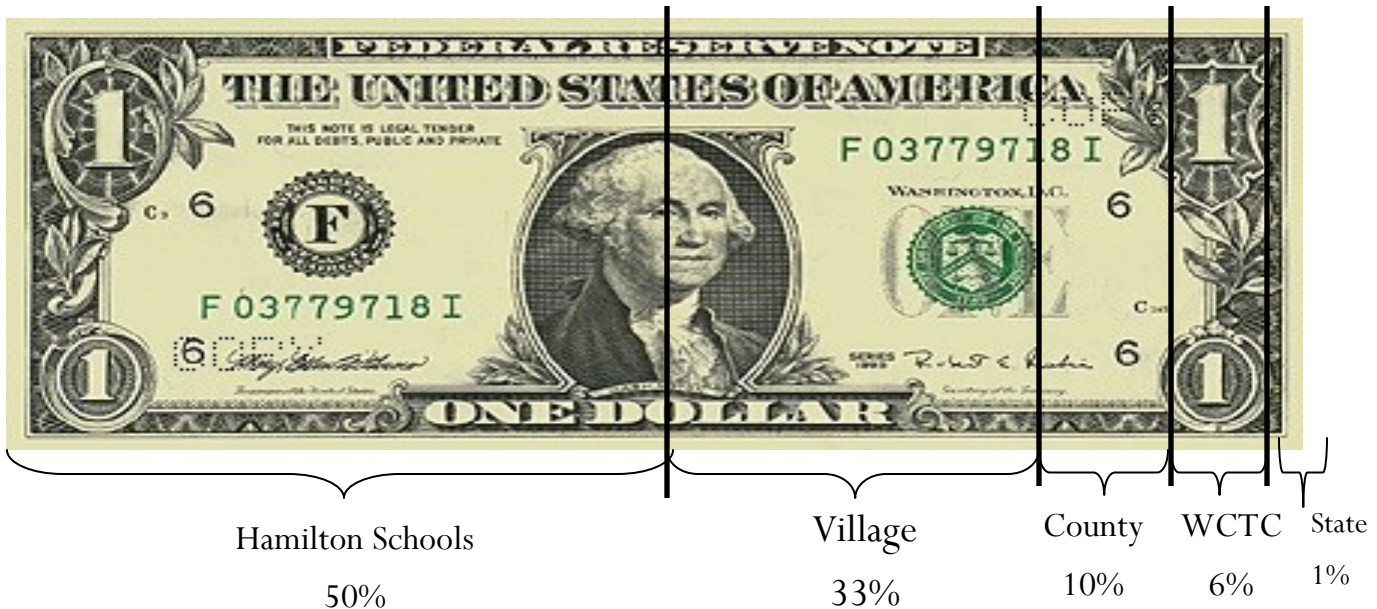
Please feel free to stop in anytime and help yourself to any of the free publications, brochures, literature, etc. that we have in the office.

2010 Village of Butler Budget

The Village Board approved the 2010 budget on December 1, 2009. Tax bills were mailed the second week in December.

The Village will collect your tax payments until January 31, 2009. After that date, you should make payments at Waukesha County.

Where does your property tax money go?

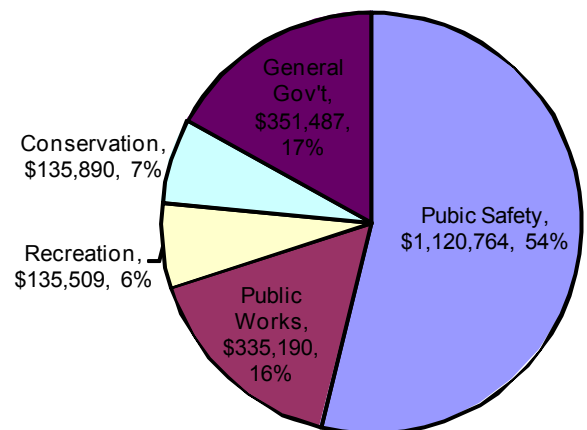


This \$1 bill represents the allocation of each taxing authority on your property tax bill. This representation is only for the property owners in the Hamilton School District. The Menomonee Falls School district has a slightly higher tax rate for the Village residents in that district.

2010 General Fund Expenditure is \$2,104,840 which is \$46,624 or a 2.27% increase over 2009. The State of Wisconsin created an expenditure cap of 3% for Municipalities, however, the Village Board did not see fit to use all 3%.

Your portion of the property tax bill that goes to the Village is primarily spent on the General Fund which is comprised of Public Safety, Public Works, Recreation, Conservation/Development and General Government. Debt Services and Capital Projects are also funded by property taxes. In the 2010 Budget, 62% of the General Fund comes from property tax. The rest is collected from fees, investments, grants, charges for services and state aid.

2010 General Fund Expenditures



FIRE DEPARTMENT

HOLIDAY HOME SAFETY REMINDERS

Underwriters Laboratories (UL), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the Butler Volunteer Fire Department are working together this season to remind consumers to think about savings *and* safety to enjoy true peace of mind. With the NFPA reporting that December and January are the peak months for the overall number of home fires, deaths and injuries, safety is an issue than can often be overlooked with damaging consequences.

For families, money savings can come in the form of reusing old decorations or shopping at thrift stores and deep discounters. It is also a time of year when families are celebrating and cooking more at home. But if not done carefully, seemingly cheerful activities could quickly put a damper on holiday spirits. Old products like light strings can become worn after years of use. If not carefully evaluated, items like these can pose a risk of fire or electric shock.

SAFE & THRIFTY GIFTS

- **[Shop at retailers you know and trust.](#)** Some products found at deep-discount stores may pose potential safety hazards, especially if they do not bear a recognized safety certification mark, such as the UL Mark (the letters "UL" inside a circle).
- **Just look for UL.** Products that bear the UL Mark mean representative samples have been tested to UL's rigorous safety standards and found to be free of foreseeable safety hazards.
- **Examine packaging.** Parents should thoroughly examine new products, especially if they have young children at home. Pay particular attention to products in boxes or packages that do not offer a brand name and manufacturer's information

SAFE HOME

- **A fresh tree is key.** "If the needles are not fresh, there is a greater risk of fire," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of communications, NFPA. "While Christmas tree fires are rare, a person dies in one of every 18 reported, so it's clear they can be deadly." Ask your tree lot attendant to make a fresh cut to the base of the tree and place it in water as soon as you get home. Position the tree in a tree stand that holds at least one gallon of water and check moisture level daily. Dispose of your tree after approximately four weeks.
- **Light it right.** Carefully inspect each electrical decoration – new or old -- before plugging it in. Look for cracked sockets or frayed, exposed wires that could become a shock or fire hazard. Replace damaged items with new, UL-LISTED decorations.
- **Holiday lights - indoor or outdoor?** Indoor-use only light strings that are marked with UL's green holographic label. Indoor or outdoor-use light strings that are marked with UL's red holographic label.

SAFE FAMILY

- **Exercise candle care.** If you have children and pets, place candles out of reach and away from heavy traffic areas in your home. Never leave a room with candles lit.
- **Stand by your pan.** Cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking, frying or broiling.
- **Practice makes the holiday perfect.** Use the holiday season as an opportunity to practice a fire escape plan with your children. Every family member should know at least two ways to get out of each room in the home.
- **Gift donations.** If you plan to give to those in need, think safety. Consider donating toys your children no longer play with – but are in good condition for second-hand use. Before donating toys with electrical components, make sure they do not have frayed or bare wires/cords as they can potentially cause fire or shock hazards.

These are only a few tips on keeping your home and your family safe this holiday season. For further information please contact your friends at the Butler Fire Department.

Village Hall Remodel Project

For the last 14 months ,the Village Staff and Public Works Committee have been working on plans for a Village Hall Remodel. The last major Village Hall remodeling project was in 1963 when the DPW garage on the back of our existing Village Hall was converted to the Library and Board/Court Room. The Project will begin January 4, 2010 and run about 6 months. The Village selected Selzer-Ornst Construction Services, a Wauwatosa firm that has completed several other comparable Municipal projects. The project will consist of a complete remodel of the Fire Department, Police Department and Village Board/Court Room. Village Hall administration and Police administration will stay open at our current location through out construction. The Fire Department and Police Patrol services will operate out of the former Lion's Building at the Village Park.

During construction, the Village will continue to provide Police and Fire services which have been dispatched out of the Waukesha Communication Center for the last 5 years. All existing phone numbers will continue to connect residents to the emergency services.

The project will also give a much needed face lift to the exterior of the Building along with better utilization of our existing space at Village Hall. A large focus on energy efficiency and reducing both redundant and long-term cost has been the committees focus.

New Garbage Contract with Waste Management



Important Change in Village of Butler's Waste Hauling "Garbage" Contract

Effective January 1, 2010, the Village of Butler will enter into a new Contract with Waste Management. The new Contract **does not** provide Commercial Pick-up Service for 200 commercial businesses in the Village. If you are a Owner/Renter of a commercial business in the Village of Butler, please make arrangements for Waste/ Recycling hauling for your property. The Village of Butler will continue to provide Residential and Apartment/ Condo Service under the new Agreement.

Christmas Trees



Please put your Christmas trees out with your trash, Waste Management will pick up the trees with your garbage.

Bulk and large Items



Waste Management will remove bulk and large items from residential properties in the Village for a small fee. Please make arrangements with Waste Management if you would like them to remove large items by calling 414-761-2100.